

REMARKS

The Office Action dated January 6, 2005 has been carefully considered. The present Amendment is intended to be a complete response and to place the case in condition for allowance.

In the Action, the Examiner has rejected claim 15 as being anticipated by Armstrong et al. and Clark under § 102(b); and also as being obvious under § 103(a) over Clark and Armstrong et al. Claim 17 was also rejected under § 103(a) as being obvious over either Clark or Armstrong et al.

Claims 15 and 17 are amended to overcome the prior art rejection. Specifically, claim 15 is amended to recite “wherein the band saw blade further comprises at least an additional unset tooth (33) which is located between the third left set tooth (31) and the fourth right set tooth (35);” in the new first wherein clause. Claim 17 is amended to now recite “wherein each of the gullets between the teeth (25, 27, 29, 31, 33, 35, 37, 39) includes a straight portion and two round portions (R, R) of which radii are the same for each other.” (See, Fig. 6B.)

According to the present invention, the additional unset tooth (33) is located between the first to the third set teeth (27, 29, 31) and the fourth to the sixth set teeth (35, 37, 39). In other words, the additional unset tooth (33) cuts the workpiece after the first to the third set teeth (27, 29, 31) cut the workpiece and before the fourth to the sixth set teeth (35, 37, 39) will cut the workpiece.

According to the structure of serial order of the teeth, the cutting line on the workpiece by the band saw blade becomes straighter and the structure intercepts the cutting

line on the workpiece by the band saw blade preventing deviation from the predetermined cutting line. Cutting accuracy is thereby improved.

The applied references Armstrong et al. and Clark, on the contrary, do not disclose the specific structure of the present invention described above. There is no additional unset tooth (straight tooth) between the teeth 13, 14, 15 and the teeth 16, 17, 18 as shown in Fig. 1 of the applied reference, Clark.

Furthermore, there is no additional unset tooth (straight tooth) between the teeth L1, R1, L2 and the teeth R2, L3, S3 as shown in Fig. 2 of the applied reference, Armstrong et al.

As all grounds of rejection have been addressed and overcome, entry of this Amendment and issuance of a Notice of Allowance of the pending claims, as now presented, are respectfully solicited.

In the event that there are any questions relating to this Amendment or to the application in general, it would be appreciated if the examiner would telephone the undersigned attorney concerning such questions so that the prosecution of this application may be expedited.

Please charge any shortage or credit any overpayment of fees to BLANK ROME LLP, Deposit Account No. 23-2185 (000004-00634). In the event that a petition for an extension of time is required to be submitted herewith and in the event that a separate petition does not accompany this response, Applicant hereby petitions under 37 C.F.R. 1.136(a) for an extension of time for as many months as are required to render this submission timely.

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Any fees due are authorized above.

Respectfully submitted,

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